

Serial No.: 09/678,062
Attorney Docket No. 24141761.2

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Application was originally filed with claims 1-20. By this Amendment, independent claims 1 and 16 have been amended to place them in condition for allowance. Other amendments are also submitted to correct various informalities within the claims. Applicant asserts that these claim amendments are fully supported by the Application as filed and, as such, do not introduce new matter.

I. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-11 and 15-20 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Baxendale (US 5,990,918) in view of Lysczarz (US 4,897,533). In response to this rejection, Applicant has amended claim 1 to clarify that only a portion of the substrate has a reflective region. The Lysczarz reference, on the other hand, teaches away from this limitation by requiring that an entire surface of the substrate must be covered with a reflective material: “The metal containing layer is bonded to the first surface of the substrate and preferably covers at least substantially the entire first surface of the substrate.” Lysczarz, col. 2, lns. 58-61 (emphasis added). Because the Lysczarz reference teaches away from this limitation, there is no motivation to combine the Lysczarz reference with the Baxendale reference, nor is there any teaching or suggestion that only a portion of the substrate can be covered with a reflective region. For these reasons, Applicant asks that the Final Rejection of claim 1 be reconsidered and withdrawn. Similarly, because claims 2-11 and 15 all depend from claim 1, each of these claims is therefore distinguishable for the same reasons.

Regarding claims 16-20, Applicant has amended claim 16 to clarify that only a portion of the substrate has a reflective region. As stated previously, because the Lysczarz reference

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teaches away from this limitation, there is no motivation to combine the Lysczarz reference with the Baxendale reference, nor is there any teaching or suggestion that only a portion of the substrate can be covered with a reflective region. For these reasons, Applicant asks that the Final Rejection of claim 16 be reconsidered and withdrawn. Similarly, because claims 17-20 all depend from claim 16, each of these claims is distinguishable for the same reasons.

Claims 12-14 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Baxendale in view of Lysczarz as applied to claim 1, and further in view of Peyret (US 5,688,056). Because each of these claims depend from independent claim 1, which has been distinguished over Baxendale and Lysczarz, Applicant submits that the rejection of these claims has been traversed. Applicant therefore requests that the Final Rejection of these claims be reconsidered and withdrawn.

II. CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-20 are in condition for allowance, and request a Notice of Allowance for the pending claims. Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned Attorney of Record if such would expedite the prosecution of the present Application. Although Applicant believes no fees are due, if the Commissioner determines that fees are due, or an overcharge has occurred, please charge or credit Deposit Account No. 13-0480, referencing Attorney Docket Number 24141761.2.

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Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I, William D. McSpadden, hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, at 1-703-746-4794, under 37 C.F.R. 1.8, on August 11, 2003, and addressed to:

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